

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 01021 200803Z

12

ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ISO-00 OCL-00 EA-07 /014 W

----- 089241

R 200710Z JUN 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1960

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1021

MANILA FOR RCO AND ATO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: ACOM PFOR

SUBJECT: SKYLINK

REF: A-4275

1. PENDING FINAL REVIEW AND CONCURRENCE BY MR. BRUCE
UPON HIS RETURN LATER THIS MONTH, USLO AGREES WITH
DEPARTMENT'S PLAN TO INSTALL A SKYLINK TERMINAL.

2. THE CHINESE APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE OF OFFICIAL
COMMUNICATION FACILITIES AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE THEY WOULD
BE OVERLY SENSITIVE TO A SPECIFIC TYPE. THEY READILY
AGREED TO OUR RADIO FACILITIES, ONLY ASKING FOR
RECIPROCAL RIGHTS. OTHER MISSIONS IN PEKING HAVE
SIMILAR RADIO FACILITIES, JUDGING FROM THE ARRAY OF ANTENNAS
WHICH CAN BE SEEN IN A LARGE NUMBER OF OTHER COMPOUNDS.

2. IF WE WISH TO OBTAIN CHINESE APPROVAL, WE BELIEVE
WE SHOULD ASK THEM. RATHER THAN ADVISE THE PRC INFORMALLY,
WE WOULD PREFER TO SEND A NOTE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:
QUOTE (COMPLIMENTARY OPENING) AND WITH REFERENCE TO ITS
NOTE NO. 71 OF AUGUST 10, 1973 HAS THE HONOR TO REQUEST
THE MINISTRY TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF A SATELLITE
COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY. SUCH A FACILITY IS PART OF THE
U.S. PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS AS A
PRIMARY MEDIUM TO ALL U.S. MISSIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 01021 200803Z

4. QUOTE WHEN INSTALLED, IN APPROXIMATELY SIX TO SEVEN MONTHS TIME, THIS SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE LOCATED WITHIN THE LIAISON OFFICE'S COMPOUND AND WOULD REPLACE THE PRESENTLY UTILIZED COMMERCIAL LEASED CIRCUIT VIA SHANGHAI AS THE LIAISON OFFICE'S PRIMARY COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY. THE DIPLOMATIC RADIO STATION DESCRIBED IN NOTE NO. 71 WOULD CONTINUE TO BE USED AS A SECONDARY COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.

5. QUOTE THE FOLLOWING ARE THE TECHNICAL DATA FOR SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS:

DESTINATION: DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, D.C.
VIA RELAYS AS NECESSARY; WORKING HOURS - H24

CALL SIGN - KUN; FREQUENCIES CARRIER M8023.5 AND M7298.5

TYPE (CLASS) FE, POWER 500 WATTS, WORKING METHOD 300F9

TYPE OF ANTENNA - SIX FOOT PARABOLIC REFLECTOR, GAIN 42DB.

6. QUOTE THE FREQUENCIES ARE WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION ASSIGNED 7000-8000 MEGAHERTZ REGIONS AND REFLECT OUR CONCERN TO AVOID INTERFERENCE WITH ANY TERRESTRAL MICROWAVE SYSTEMS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

7. QUOTE THE SATELLITE WOULD BE LOCATED OVER THE PACIFIC OCEAN IN EQUATORIAL GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT AT 175 DEGREES EAST LONGITUDE (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE) UNQUOTE.

8. WE DO NOT NEED SPECIFIC APPROVAL FROM THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES TO MODIFY THE ROOF, BUT WE WILL NEED TO HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE SIZE OF CONCRETE MOUNTING PAD. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THERE WILL BE ANY PROBLEM, BUT WANT TO CHECK WITH THE CONSTRUCTION BUREAU ON THE ROOF-LOADING EFFECT. THERE MAY BE REQUIREMENTS TO PLACE THE PAD IN ONE LOCATION OR ANOTHER BECAUSE OF LOAD REQUIREMENTS.

9. THE LINE OF SIGHT TO THE SOUTHEAST (OVER JIH TAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PEKING 01021 200803Z

PARK AND THE POLISH EMBASSY) REMAINS UNOBSTRUCTED AND WE CONCUR THAT THE BEST LOCATION WOULD BE THE FLAT ROOF OVER THE PRESENT COMMUNICATIONS AREA.

10. WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO PLACE THE ANTENNA WITHIN A RADOME OR OTHER STRUCTURE. WE BELIEVE THAT A COVERED INSTALLATION WOULD LEAD TO UNWARRANTED SPECULATION. A PARABOLIC REFLECTOR SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.

11. WE RECOMMEND THAT INSTALLATION BE SCHEDULED FOR NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1974 AND IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO INSTALL IN NOVEMBER, SO MUCH THE BETTER, TO AVOID HAVING TO WORK ON THE ROOF IN SUB-FREEZING TEMPERATURES. PERHAPS SEABEES COULD BE SCHEDULED IN PRIOR TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE SEA VAN. (WE HOPE THAT TWO MONTHS LEAD TIME WILL BE ADEQUATE, BUT OUR EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN THAT OCEAN SHIPMENTS TAKE CLOSER TO THREE MONTHS.)

12. USLO WOULD WISH TO ESTABLISH AND MANAGE/OPERATE AN END-TO-END CIRCUIT DIRECTLY WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S ATS. WE HAVE A RELATIVELY HIGH PROPORTION OF OFF-LINE ENCRYPTED TRAFFIC AND WE COULD REDUCE BY HALF THE AMOUNT OF TIME REQUIRED TO PROCESS THIS TRAFFIC. WE WOULD HAVE GREATER FLEXIBILITY THAN WE HAVE AT PRESENT WHICH REQUIRES TWO PERSONS TO HANDLE THE DEPARTMENT'S TRAFFIC. WE COULD CUT THIS IN HALF. WE COULD ALSO REDUCE OVERTIME COSTS BECAUSE A CALL-IN-ALARM WOULD DESIGNATE WHICH CIRCUIT HAD BEEN ACTIVATED THUS ELIMINATING DOUBLE PARTICIPATION AS IS SOMETIMES NECESSARY UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

13. THE "CALL-UP" SECURE VOICE CAPABILITY IS marginally DESIRABLE, BUT A SECONDARY FEATURE AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED. SOME USLO PERSONNEL HAVE SERVED IN POSTS WHERE SUCH FACILITIES WERE AVAILABLE AND COMMENTED ON SOME ADVERSE FEATURES, E.G. IT BECOMES TOO EASY TO FALL INTO A HABIT OF USING THE PHONE WHICH COULD LEAD TO IMPRECISE AND UNDOCUMENTED INSTRUCTIONS AND ACTIONS; USERS REGRETFULLY ARE NOT ALWAYS AWARE OF THE 12 HOUR TIME DIFFERENCE; AND THE TELEPHONE TENDS TO BE USED WHEN A TELEGRAM, WITH AN APPROPRIATE PRECEDENCE, WOULD

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PEKING 01021 200803Z

BE JUST AS FAST AND IS CERTAIN TO REACH THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE.

14. WE WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SPACE REQUIRED FOR THE "SEVERAL BAYS OF EQUIPMENT PLUS ADEQUATE SUPPORTING SPARE PARTS, ETC." CAN THESE BE ACCOMMODATED WITHIN THE PRESENT TCU AREA?

HOLDRIDGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, POLICIES, RECIPROCAL RADIO PRIVILEGES, RADIO COMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PEKING01021
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740161-0417
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740628/aaaaaxws.tel
Line Count: 162
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OC
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A-4275
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SKYLINK
TAGS: ACOM, PFOR, US, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005